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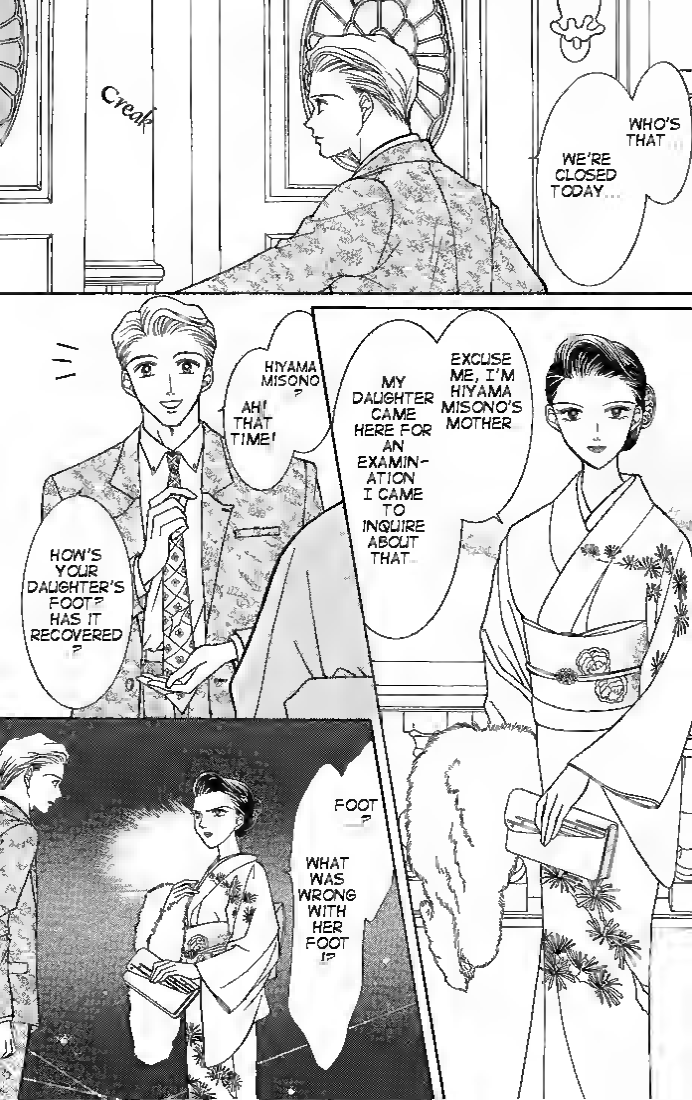
Starry Heaven

3 MONTHS LATER
WELL, MAMA,
I'M GOING NOW
READY MISONO ?
GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT
GO OUT THERE AND MAKE A NEW RECORD

It's strange... Since about 3 months ago, she's changed, become more cheerful... Her training has really improved.
SLAM
...
JUST WAIT!
Creak
!?
flip

A SURGICAL EXAMINATION?
OCTOBER SIXTH...
ICHINOMIYA CLINIC!?
KEISUKE-NIISAN
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HEY, SAKUYA, THE CHIME JUST RANG.
I CAME TO RETURN THE BOOKS I BORROWED.
YOU'RE LOOKING ALL FORMAL.

BUSI-
NESS
TRIP?
YEAH,
THE
MEDICAL
ASSOC-
IATION
IN
KYOTO.
DO
YOU
WANT
TO
COME?
WHAT
?
ME?
IT'S
SO
MUCH
WORK.
I'M
OVER-
WHELMED
UNFORT-
UNATELY,
TOMO-
RROW
I'M
ACCOMP-
ANYING
HIMEKO.
HIMEKO'S
YOUR
MATCH,
ISN'T SHE?
YOU
ALWAYS
SURRENDER
TO HER
WILL.
WHEN
YOU'RE
WITH HER
IT'S HER
WAY, OR
ELSE
SHE'LL KILL
YOU
HAHA,
EXACTLY!
DITING
DODONG


Creak
WHO'S THAT...
WE'RE CLOSED TODAY...
EXCUSE ME, I'M HIYAMA MISONO'S MOTHER
MY DAUGHTER CAME HERE FOR AN EXAMIN-ATION I CAME TO INQUIRE ABOUT THAT.
HIYAMA MISONO?
AH! THAT TIME!
HOW'S YOUR DAUGHTER'S FOOT? HAS IT RECOVERED?
FOOT?
WHAT WAS WRONG WITH HER FOOT!?

YOU GAVE HER A SECOND OPINION THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO RUN!?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
That heel's going to be a problem tomorrow!
I I DIDN'T KNOW
All that hard work up until now won't come to anything!!
NO
THAT GIRL TOMORROW SHE'LL BE IN KYOTO RUNNING ANCHOR IN THE MEET
WHAT'S THIS!
I TOLD HER IT COULD SHORTEN HER ATHLETIC CAREER
YES, IT'S URGENT IT'S THE INTENSITY OF HER TRAINING

Hitotsu
no
Hanazono

by Fuyu Mihono

Starry Heaven

DON'T GET YOURSELF UPSET WORRYING
YES
I'LL JUST PRAY THAT SHE'S ALL RIGHT RUNNING TOMORROW
I, I APOLOGIZE FOR BARGING IN ABOUT THIS
OH ...

EXCUSE ME....
N... NO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
bRUSh
THAT GIRL'S PRETTY, BUT THE MOTHER IS SOMETHING ELSE, RIGHT?
EH? NII-SAN, YOU'RE FALLING FOR A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN
YE...H? YOU THINK SO?
WHAT?
THAT GIRL- SHE IGNORED THE X-RAY RESULTS AND IS GOING TO RUN IN THE MEET TOMO-RROW

NO
.....
I THINK THE X-RAY WAS PRETTY OBVIOUS
We've got some fine weather for this January
The meet will begin under a winter sky.
The National Girl's Track and Field Competition! The leaders are about to appear. I'm getting chills.
BANG
BOOM
NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS, SHE IS GOING TO RUN
I BELIEVE THAT...

It's already time
This year, as expected, Saitama, Chiba, and Kyoto areas are in serious contention for the championship.
Right, but the most attention has gone to Kanagawa's team anchor - Hiyama Misono, hasn't it?
We've seen some unprecedented Junior High School anchors this year, haven't we?
I'm looking forward to watching all of the competitors!
Today, for one day, let it hold together and be fine.
Sometimes my foot hurts enough to make me feel slow-witted but

Credits

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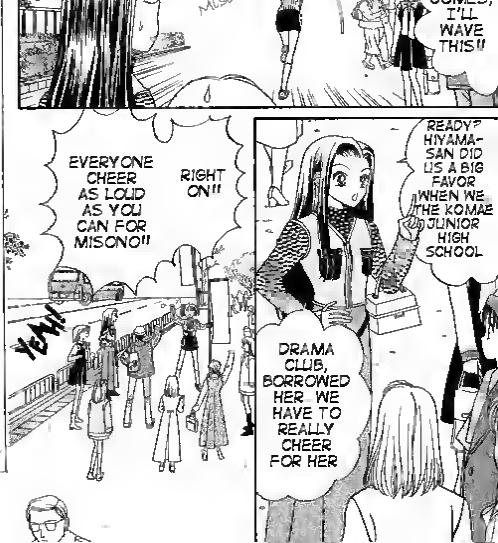
Starry Heaven

Sakura-san
I want to see you one more time
But you're always near me in my feelings
The flower you gave me
The rose inside of my heart has bloomed
That rose-
Now I can believe in it and keep it forever

THUMP THUMP
WAAAH!
I'M ALL OUT OF WHACK !!
B-BUT IT'S MISONO'S RELAY DEBUT, BUCHO!
IDIOT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?
IT'LL PROBABLY BE ON TV!
Everything was for today.
No matter how many people I have to beat, just watch me!
BAM!
Now, the first lap has started!

Flap
GOOD LUCK, MISONO!
DID YOU COME TO ROOT? OR DID YOU COME TO BE ON TV?
TO ROOT, OF COURSE!! AND LOOK AT THIS!! A HOME-MADE BANNER!

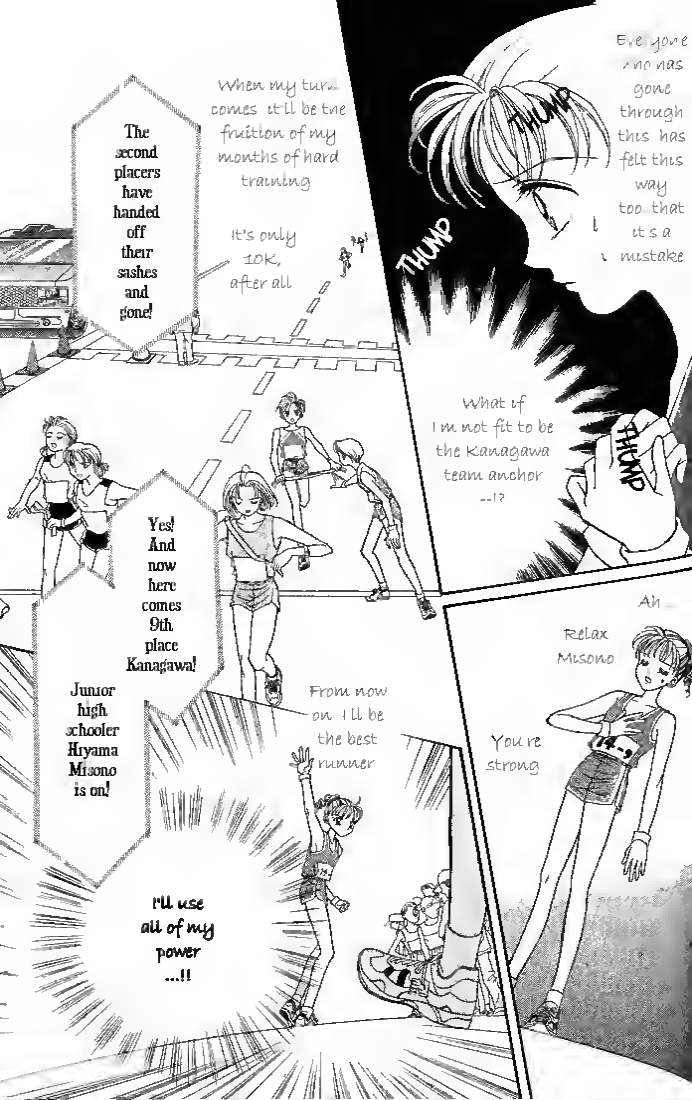
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
DASH
Good luck Misono!
WHEN MISONO COMES, I'LL WAVE THIS!!


EVERYONE CHEER AS LOUD AS YOU CAN FOR MISONO!!
RIGHT ON!!
YEAH!
READY? HIYAMA-SAN DID US A BIG FAVOR WHEN WE THE KOMAE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
DRAMA CLUB, BORROWED HER. WE HAVE TO REALLY CHEER FOR HER

Vying for second position are Saitama, Kumamoto, and Chiba.
Ayagi, Kyoto, Fukuoka, and Nagano are all fighting for the next position.
Currently in the 8th lap, the leader is Tokyo. They're passing the 5K mark. Following first place there is a melee jostling for second position about 250 meters behind.
INCREASE THE PACE. IN THE FIRST HALF, KEEP IT DOWN.
READY, HIYAMA? WHEN YOU HIT THE WEST HIGHWAY,
ALL RIGHT.
14-
Kanagawa is running about 100 meters behind.
This will be a big task for anchor Hiyama, handing over a victory.

The others are true warriors. They've studied race strategy...
A lot of people are watching in the crowd and on TV
I've got to make up 350 meters.
I wonder if I can do it in 10K...
THUMP
That's Kusaragi Yuri...!

YAAAAAAAAY!
The runner for the 9th lap is Jitsu Trade School's Kisaragi Yuri!
Here comes Tokyo in the lead!
<SFX: BAM>
Now the sash handover!
THUMP THUMP
PLEASE STAND BY!
THUMP
THUMP
I have to take the lead. Maybe not, but I feel that maybe...
A... ALL RIGHT...

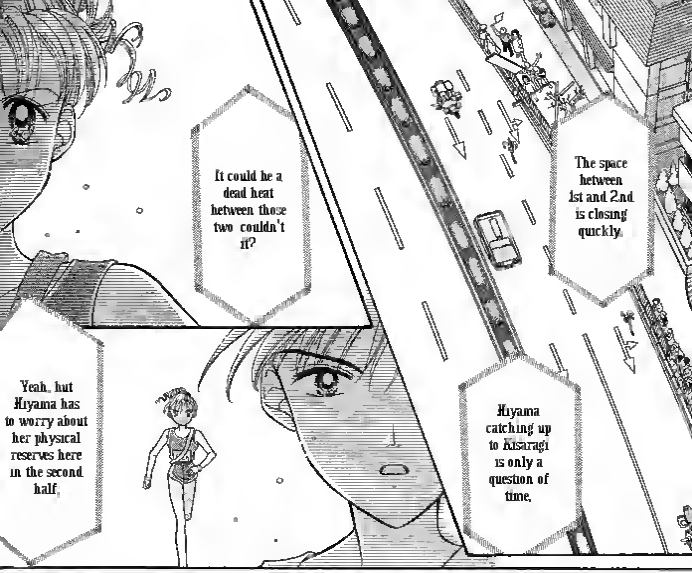

The second placers have handed off their sashes and gone!
When my turn comes it'll be the fruition of my months of hard training
It's only 10K, after all
Everyone who has gone through this has felt this way too that it's a mistake
THUMP
THUMP
What if I'm not fit to be the Kanagawa team anchor --!?
THUMP
Yes! And now here comes 9th place Kanagawa!
Junior high schooler Hiyama Misono is on!
From now on I'll be the best runner
I'll use all of my power ...!!
Ah
Relax Misono
You're strong
14...?

そぉおおっ
Hyuuna's off with great energy!
14-1
タッ
So that's what I've decided to win the first half
I'm going to really dress the final now!
The 2nd placers are 100 meters ahead...
Then I should be able to see them.
40
2nd place isn't even visible.
She's running beautifully, steadily with gorgeous form.
Tokyo's Kusaragi Yuri has left everyone behind.

わあああ
14
And now she's chasing 6th place Miyagi!
Here comes the pack!
I can't believe it! In only two kilometers, Kanagawa has pulled up to 5th place Nagano!
Today a new wind is blowing
Yes, but these runners are well out of connection for first place, right?
This is unbelievable!
A wind of great authority An atmosphere of resistance, using all of her strength!
Ah!

In any moment Hiyama will catch up to first!
She's pulled within 220 meters of the lead!!
You said it! She just passed the 6th pinch!!
And she's threatening second!!!
I can't see whoever's in the lead!
14-9
why haven't I caught up!
How much space is between us? With a straight course

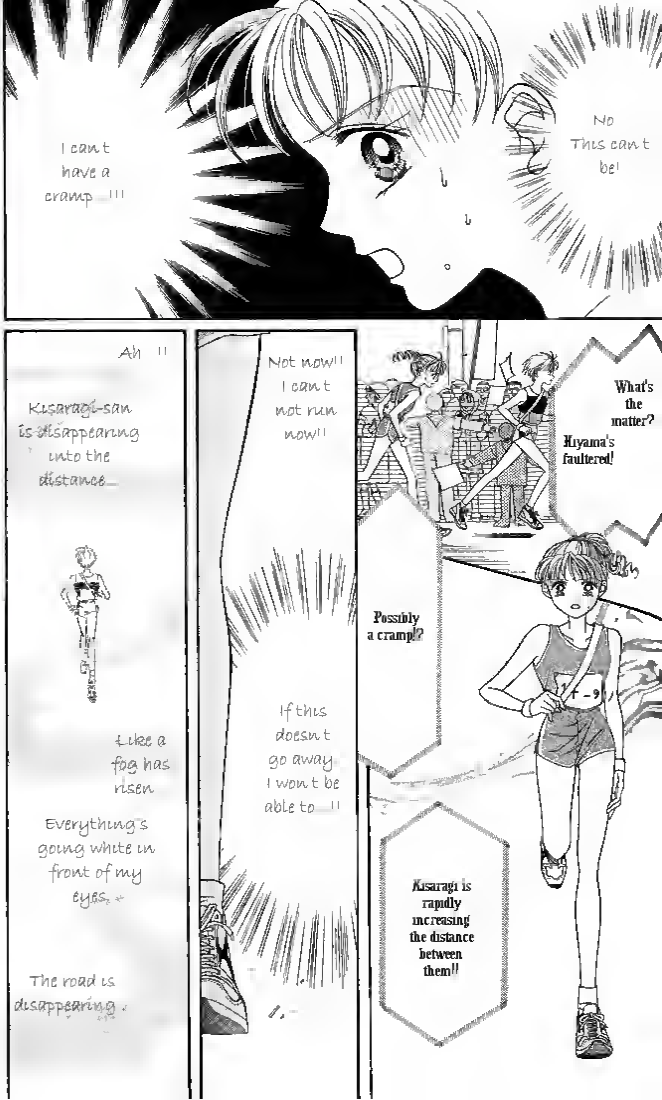
I'm running okay.
My heel hurts a little but
I'll perfectly fine.
I'll make it...!
I see her!!
About 200 meters left...!!
With such immense speed, Hiyama could take 1st place.
Maybe Kisaragi-san has kept her pace slow for the first half. She'll probably pick it up for the second half
At least I'm closing the distance !!
Oh...!
She's closing the distance now!

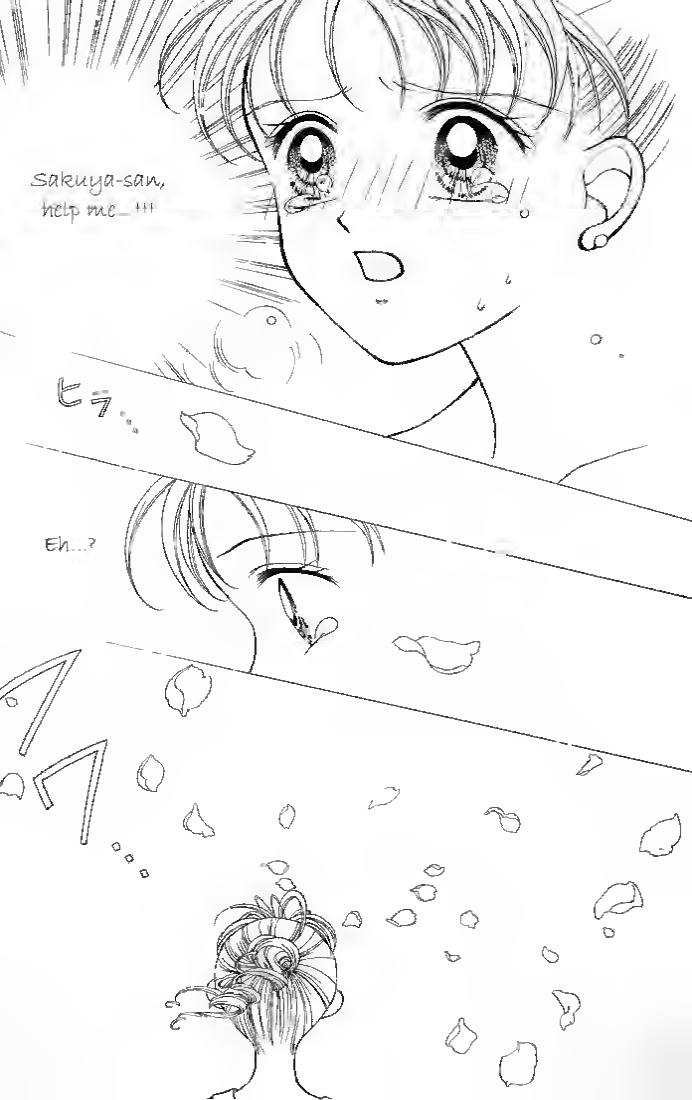

It could be a dead heat between those two couldn't it?
The space between 1st and 2nd is closing quickly.
Yeah, but Hiyama has to worry about her physical reserves here in the second half.
Hiyama catching up to Kisaragi is only a question of time.

WHEN SHE COMES, SHE MIGHT EVEN BE IN FIRST PLACE!!
NO WAY!! VERY AM_ZING!!
HEY, HEY! IT'S AMAZING!
THAT WOULD BE ULTRA COOL!!
MISONO'S IN SECOND PLACE!!
YEAH!

OF COURSE !!
MI SO NO 'S BEEN RUNNING EVERY DAY BY HERSELF!!
SUFF-ERING, NOT EVEN ABLE TO CRY ONCE
SHE HAS TO WIN!!!
HEY, HEY, WE GET IT, NO NEED TO CRY
READY EVERY-ONE !!?
ALL RIGHT! WE'VE TRAINED OUR VOCAL CORDS TO GIVE US LOUD VOICES, NOW LET'S USE THEM TO CHEER!
YEAH!
わあああ
At the 5th mark Hyama is right behind Kisaragi.
がんばれ京都

はぁ
はぁ
わぁぁぁ
Yes, but, Hiyama seems to be in pain.
These leaders really make me want to run!!
3-
14-
until I beat Kisaragi san...
I'll be all night I'll be all night
14-
HUH!?
No way!! A cramp !?
But Kisaragi-san's form isn't faultering....
13-
I can't afford to be impressed...


I can't have a cramp!!!
No This can't be!
Ah !!
Kisaragi-san is disappearing into the distance...
Like a fog has risen
Everything's going white in front of my eyes.
The road is disappearing.
Not now!! I can't not run now!!
If this doesn't go away I won't be able to...!!
What's the matter?
Hiyama's faultered!
Possibly a cramp!?
Kisaragi is rapidly increasing the distance between them!!


Sakuya-san, help me_!!!
ヒラ…
Eh…?

A rose petal ?

Is it an illusion?

Beautiful

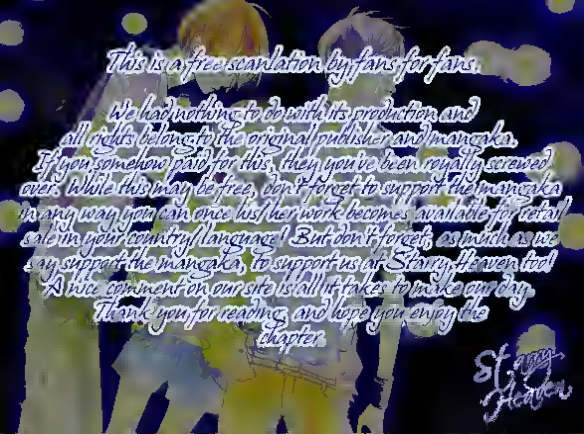
Until now I didn't hear it at all !!
There are a lot of people cheering for me !!
Cheers..!!
M-9
Right!!
It looks like Hiyama has removed the pin from her number plate and stuck her finger with it.
Ah! It was the pressure point of her foot!
That's... an old fashioned way to cure a cramp.
It loosens the tendon strain
中継車

That's loosened the tendon on the back heel...
All right...!
GO GO GO !!!
GO MIZUNO
MI-SO-NO!!
Definitely Is this a tenacity or what..!!
14
I love to be here, in this place
It's as Sakuya-san said
There's a reason why I have a talent for something
So I can run
Everyone...!
Yes...!

Run, Kisaragi!
It looks like Hiyama's come back to life and is picking up speed!
Always, always.
I thought I wanted to run faster.
That's all I ever asked for.
Fly lightly, like a bird.
With only 100 meters left!!
She passed!!

Hiyama wins!!
She's set a new regional record of 31 minutes no seconds!!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!!?
HIYAMA!!
HIYAMA!!!
The blue sky
However high the huge blue sky is ....
Surely ...
to the other side!!

Himitsu no Hanazono
Secret Garden
Starry Heaven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